

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A high strength polyethylene multifilament, wherein said multifilament has a stress Raman shift factor of not smaller than $-5.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}/(\text{cN/dTex})$; wherein said multifilament has an average strength of not lower than 38 cN/dTex; wherein a knot strength retention of monofilaments constituting the high strength multifilament is not lower than 40%; and wherein said multifilament has an elongation at break of from 2.5% inclusive to 6.0% inclusive.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A high strength polyethylene multifilament, wherein said multifilament has a crystal size of monoclinic crystal of not larger than 9 nm; wherein said multifilament has an average strength of not lower than 38 cN/dTex; and wherein a knot strength retention of monofilaments constituting the high strength multifilament is not lower than 40%.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The high strength polyethylene multifilament according to claim 10 or claim 12, wherein CV which indicates a variation in the strengths of monofilaments constituting the high strength multifilament is not higher than 25%.

16. (Currently Amended) The high strength polyethylene multifilament according to claim 10 or claim 12, wherein said multifilament has an elongation at break of from ~~2.5%~~ 3.5% inclusive to ~~6.0%~~ 5.0% inclusive.

17. (Currently Amended) The high strength polyethylene multifilament according to claim 10 or claim 12, wherein each of filaments constituting the multifilament has a fineness of not higher than 10 dTex.

18. (Currently Amended) The high strength polyethylene multifilament according to claim 10 or claim 12, wherein the melting point of filaments is not lower than 145°C.

19. (New) the high strength polyethylene multifilament according to claim 12, wherein said multifilament has a ratio of the crystal sizes derived from the (200) and (020) diffractions of an orthorhombic crystal of from 0.8 inclusive to 1.2 inclusive.